GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1816
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2000
OIL PRICE THREATEN WORLD ECONOMY
NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, `Oil prices continue rise; threaten world economy` as reported in the Times of India dated September 21, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the IMF have warned the rising of fuel costs which may affect global economic outlook;

(c) whether the European Union and OPEC have decided to take steps to boost oil production in the world; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government on such development?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. As per International Monetary Fund (IMF) web-site, there were two press conferences of the IMF, one on September 19, 2000 on the occasion of release of IMF`s latest World Economic Outlook and the other one by the Managing Director of IMF on September 20, 2000 at Prague. Both the conferences contained references to the oil price increase and its impact on the World Economy. The World Economic Outlook (October, 2000) also contained references to the oil price rise.

(c): The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries has announced increase in production of crude oil in various rounds of their scheduled meetings during 2000.

(d): The Government continuously monitors the developments in the international market so as to make suitable adjustments in prices of petroleum products in the country .